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## **INNER CIRCLE**

A new and unique level of involvement with the Institute, named the Inner Circle, was implemented in the fall of 1989. It had two goals: to recognize major contributors in a special way; and to provide invaluable assistance to research activities through off-site assessment of new technological advances and new products.

We're constantly assessing products and research results right here, of course. But off-site assessment is different. For example, when we're developing Hemi-Sync for the sleep processor, in-house tests may be influenced by our knowing that we're listening to the sleep processor. To have an objective, unbiased test, we copied a cycle from the sleep processor onto tape, asked Inner Circle participants to listen and tell us what happened—without their knowing what was on the tape or what effects we were anticipating. When they reported back "Nothing happened; I just fell asleep," we knew we were on the right track!

It's not all reporting on tapes with unspecified purposes. Inner Circle participants, prepped by a special Hemi-Sync tape, were challenged to identify the contents of a brown paper bag hanging from the lab ceiling. The numbers of direct hits and the almost-but-not-quites were so exciting that we're running the same experiment a second time. Another fun experience in store for Inner Circle participants is a fly-in, an out-of-body reunion at the lab. There are other rewarding benefits too, such as personal lab sessions and brainmapping.

How does someone join the Inner Circle? By making a significant contribution (at least \$500), demonstrating support for the Institute beyond the existing levels of membership. To date, dollars contributed by Inner Circle participants have paid for staff time, for specialized consultations, and for the various bells and whistles required to carry forward the leading-edge work of the lab. Other Inner Circle participants have contributed needed equipment, such as computers and printers, musical keyboards for sound effects, etc. Contributions of service also meet the requirements for Inner Circle eligibility, providing that the service has a dollar equivalency of \$500 or more.

We're grateful for our Inner Circle supporters, whom we consider active partners in our efforts. They appreciate the opportunity to share in the work of The Monroe Institute. The Inner Circle has proven itself a win-win idea.

For more information about the Inner Circle, call Julie Mazo at (804) 361-1252.